

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
ACDA-07 TRSE-00 /065 W
-----011811 201751Z /44

R 201331Z JUN 7
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4301
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
AMEMBASSY ROME
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 05667

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC, IT, UK
SUBJECT: DPC MEETING ON JUNE 16, 1977

REF: USNATO 5449 DTG 161227Z JUN 77 (NOTAL)

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1. AT THE DPC MEETING ON JUNE 16, 1977, CINCUKAIR, AIR
CHIEF MARSHAL SIR DAVID EVANS AND HIS DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF
FOR OPERATIONS AND INTELLIGENCE, AIR VICE MARSHAL C. G.
MAUGHAN, BRIEFED IN DETAIL ON THE MISSION OF CINCUKAIR AND
THE EMPLOYMENT OF FORCES ASSIGNED TO THIS MAJOR SUBORDINATE
NATO COMMANDER. UKAIR IS COMPOSED ALMOST ENTIRELY OF A MIX
OF ROYAL AIR FORCE ASSETS BELONGING TO THE RAF STRIKE COM-
MAND. OF THE 750 AIRCRAFT IN THE PRESENT INVENTORY, 500 ARE
DECLARED TO NATO.

2. AFTER THE BRIEFING, UK PERMREP KILLICK NOTED THAT IT HAD
FOCUSED ON WHAT THE UK IS STILL DOING DESPITE DEFENSE CUTS.
IN REPLY TO DSYG PANSA'S QUESTION WHETHER RECENT UK DEFENSE
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CUTS HAD ANY MAJOR ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE CAPABILITY OF THE
FORCES UNDER HIS COMMAND, EVANS ANSWERED THAT, ALTHOUGH
THE FORCED REDUCTION IN DEFENSE EXPENDITURES HAD DELAYED
CERTAIN PROGRAMS SUCH AS THE HARDENED SHELTERS AND THE
PROCUREMENT OF SOME WEAPONS, THERE HAD BEEN NO REDUCTION
IN FRONT-LINE FORCES. HE ADDED THAT THE FLYING RATE OF
OPERATIONS SQUADRONS HAS INCREASED AND MANY IMPROVEMENTS
HAVE ALSO BEEN MADE IN AIRCRAFT, AVIONICS AND WEAPONS. HE
INDICATED EMPHATICALLY THAT HE WAS NOT CONCERNED ABOUT THE
EFFECTIVENESS OF HIS FORCES.

3. UNDER "OTHER BUSINESS", ITALIAN PERMREP CATALANO INFORMED THE DPC THAT (AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED REFTTEL) THE THIRD ITALIAN PROMOTION LAW, THIS ONE FOR THE ARMY, HAD BEEN PASSED AND WOULD SOON GO INTO EFFECT. HE STRESSED THAT THE PROGRAM WOULD HAVE CERTAIN BUILT-IN COMPENSATIONS FOR INFLATION. STREATOR

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 30-Aug-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NATO05667
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: n/a
Format: TEL
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197706108/baaabdiz.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 2b139e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: USNATO 5449 DTG 161227Z JUN 77 (NOTAL) - 1. AT THE DPC MEETING ON JUNE 16, 1977, CINCUKAIR, AIR CHIEF MARSHAL SIR DAVID EVANS AND HIS DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR OPERATIONS AND INTELLIGENCE, AIR VICE MARSHAL C. G. MAUGHAN, BRIEFED IN DETAIL ON THE MISSION OF CINCUKAIR AND
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2010092
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DPC MEETING ON JUNE 16, 1977
TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC, IT, UK
To: STATE SECDEF MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbcc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2b139e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

